

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method selected from the group consisting of improving the adaptation of a dog to an animal shelter, moderating the behavior of a dog living in an animal shelter, increasing the rate of successful adoption of a dog from an animal shelter, decreasing anxiety in a dog, increasing the welfare of a dog, and combinations thereof comprising feeding the dog a high quality diet.
2. The method according to Claim 1 wherein ACTH levels in the dog are decreased.
3. The method according to Claim 1 wherein cortisol levels in the dog are decreased.
4. The method according to Claim 1 wherein HPA levels are decreased.
5. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the high quality diet is a dry diet comprising from about 5% to about 50% crude protein, from about 0.5% to about 25% crude fat, from about 1% to about 10% crude fiber, and from about 1% to about 30% moisture, all by weight of the diet.
6. The method according to Claim 5 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.05% DHA and at least about 0.05% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
7. The method according to Claim 6 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.1% DHA and at least about 0.1% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
8. The method according to Claim 7 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 15% to about 35% crude protein, from about 10% to about 25% crude fat, from about 1% to about 5% crude fiber, and from about 5% to about 20% moisture, all by weight of the diet.
9. The method according to Claim 8 wherein the high quality diet has a minimum metabolizable energy level of about 3.5 Kcal/g.

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10. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 20% to about 50% of animal-derived ingredients, by weight of the diet.

11. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 35% to about 50% of animal-derived ingredients, by weight of the diet.

12. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.15% DHA and at least about 0.15% EPA, all by weight of the diet.

13. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the high quality diet is a moist diet comprising from about 0.5% to about 40% crude protein, from about 0.5% to about 25% crude fat, from about 0.5% to about 15% crude fiber, from about 60% to about 90% moisture, from about 0.1% to about 20% ash, and from about 0.001% to about 5.0% taurine, all by weight of the diet.

14. The method according to Claim 13 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.05% DHA and at least about 0.05% EPA, all by weight of the diet.

15. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.1% DHA and at least about 0.1% EPA, all by weight of the diet.

17. The method according to Claim 16 wherein the high quality diet has a minimum metabolizable energy level of about 3.5 Kcal/g.

18. A method selected from the group consisting of decreasing ACTH levels in a dog, decreasing cortisol levels in a dog, decreasing HPA levels in a dog, and combinations thereof, comprising feeding the dog a high quality diet.

19. The method according to Claim 18 wherein the high quality diet is a dry diet comprising from about 5% to about 50% crude protein, from about 0.5% to about 25% crude fat, from about 1% to about 10% crude fiber, and from about 1% to about 30% moisture, all by weight of the diet.

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20. The method according to Claim 19 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.05% DHA and at least about 0.05% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
21. The method according to Claim 20 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.1% DHA and at least about 0.1% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
22. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 15% to about 35% crude protein, from about 10% to about 25% crude fat, from about 1% to about 5% crude fiber, and from about 5% to about 20% moisture, all by weight of the diet.
23. The method according to Claim 22 wherein the high quality diet has a minimum metabolizable energy level of about 3.5 Kcal/g.
24. The method according to Claim 23 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 20% to about 50% of animal-derived ingredients, by weight of the diet.
25. The method according to Claim 24 wherein the high quality diet comprises from about 35% to about 50% of animal-derived ingredients, by weight of the diet.
26. The method according to Claim 24 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.15% DHA and at least about 0.15% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
27. The method according to Claim 18 wherein the high quality diet is a moist diet comprising from about 0.5% to about 40% crude protein, from about 0.5% to about 25% crude fat, from about 0.5% to about 15% crude fiber, from about 60% to about 90% moisture, from about 0.1% to about 20% ash, and from about 0.001% to about 5.0% taurine, all by weight of the diet.
28. The method according to Claim 27 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.05% DHA and at least about 0.05% EPA, all by weight of the diet.
29. The method according to Claim 28 wherein the high quality diet comprises at least about 0.1% DHA and at least about 0.1% EPA, all by weight of the diet.

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30. The method according to Claim 16 wherein the high quality diet has a minimum metabolizable energy level of about 3.5 Kcal/g.